



TAC MEETING AGENDA

September 28, 2011
MMOB Council Chambers
300 W. Washington St.

Action Items

1. Approve Minutes of August 24, 2011
2. Reports, Concerns, and Discussion from MPO Area Towns
3. Citizen Comments
4. Approve 2016-2017 CMAQ Projects and MTIP Amendment
5. Approve GTA Transit MTIP Amendments
6. Approve MTIP Amendment for Fleming Rd. Relocation & Isaacson Blvd. Extension Project
7. MTIP Amendment for FY 2011 STPDA Funded Projects
8. MTIP Amendment for US 220 Interchange Improvement Projects

Business Items / Potential Action Items

1. Presentation: Federal Requirements for Adding an Interchange to the Interstate System
2. Urban Loop Acceleration
3. Surface Transportation Reauthorization Update
4. Transportation Project Activities
5. MPO Strategic Topics

Other Items

1. Board Member Report
2. Regional Transportation News
3. Wrap-Up

Planning for the transportation future

Key Acronyms and Technical Terms Defined

Acronym or Term	Description
Advance Construction	A technique which allows NCDOT to finance a project using non-federal funds while preserving eligibility for future Federal-aid funds. Advance Construction has been used to advance STP-DA projects when funds were exhausted at the end of the Fiscal Year.
CE	Categorical Exclusion – a document that examines the environmental impacts of a project to a lesser extent than an EA or EIS.
Conformity Analysis	Demonstration that the area will not exceed allowable motor vehicle emissions budgets when the projects planned in the MTIP and LRTP are implemented.
Conformity Finding	A determination that the LRTP or MTIP is consistent with a valid conformity analysis.
CMAQ	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program. A federal highway fund category for projects intended to improve air quality.
CMP	Congestion Management Process (formerly Congestion Management System). A program of strategies for monitoring, evaluating, and addressing traffic congestion. Required for Transportation Management Areas.
CTP	Comprehensive Transportation Plan. Identifies future multimodal transportation needs and proposes conceptual solutions. It is not financially constrained.
DENR	North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources.
EA	Environmental Assessment – a document that examines the environmental impacts of a project to a lesser extent than an EIS.
EAC	Early Action Compact. Allows areas to defer the impacts of air-quality determinations by agreeing to start reducing air pollution earlier than otherwise required.
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement. Technical review of a project's impacts on the environment. Required by NEPA.
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency.
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration (US Department of Transportation).
FTA	Federal Transit Administration (US Department of Transportation).
HTF	North Carolina State Highway Trust Fund.
LRTP	Long Range Transportation Plan. A federally required, fiscally constrained, multimodal transportation plan for at least 20 years into the future.
MAB	Metropolitan Area Boundary. The boundary of the area within the transportation planning jurisdiction of an MPO.
Merger Process	A state process for transportation project development in which multiple agencies meet to approve stages of project development and address permitting issues.
MTIP	Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program. The official, fiscally constrained funding schedule for transportation projects in the metropolitan area.
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act. Federal law that requires consideration of environmental impacts for all major expenditures of federal funds.
NO _x	Oxides of nitrogen. Produced during the combustion process and considered a precursor to PM 2.5.
PDEA	NCDOT's Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch.
PM 2.5	Particulate matter that is 2.5 micrometers in diameter and smaller. These fine particles are unhealthy to breathe and have been associated with premature mortality and other serious health effects.
PTIA	Piedmont Triad International Airport.
RPO	Rural Planning Organization. RPOs are partnerships among non-MPO counties, established to provide rural areas a greater voice in state transportation decisions affecting those areas.
SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users. Current federal highway funding legislation. (TEA-21 and ISTEA are the acronyms for former legislation.)
Section 4(f)	Federal requirement for consideration of impacts to historic and natural areas for transportation projects.
Section 104(f) PL	Funds distributed through the Federal Highway Administration for transportation planning tasks.
Section 5303	Funds distributed through the Federal Transit Administration for conducting transportation planning activities.
Section 5307	Funds distributed through the Federal Transit Administration for public transportation capital assistance, operating assistance, and planning needs.
SIP	State Implementation Plan. The modeling analyses and the state and federal regulations demonstrating that the air in an area will meet National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program
STP-DA Funds	Surface Transportation Program – Direct Apportionment funds, which MPOs may direct to priority projects.
TMA	Transportation Management Area: an urbanized area over 200,000 in population. The Greensboro Urban Area was classified as a TMA as a result of the 2000 Census.
TPB	The NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch, formerly Statewide Planning Branch.
UA or UZA	Urbanized Area. The census-defined boundary that is the basis for establishing an MPO.
UPWP	Unified Planning Work Program, an accounting document for the use of planning grant funds. It lists approved activities that these funds may reimburse and guides transportation planning activities for the year.

Transportation Advisory Committee

Agenda Item Summary

September 28, 2011

Action Items

1. **Approve Minutes of August 24, 2011**
2. **Reports, Concerns, and Discussion from MPO Area Towns**
3. **Citizen Comments**
4. **Approve 2016-2017 CMAQ Projects and MTIP Amendment** – CMAQ projects for FYs 2016 and 2017 are due to NCDOT by October 31. CMAQ recommendations will be presented for approval, followed by associated MTIP amendments.
5. **Approve GTA Transit MTIP Amendments** – Transit MTIP amendments are needed to reflect schedule and funding changes for multiple transit projects. The amendments will also correct disparities between the recently adopted 2012-2018 MTIP and STIP.
6. **Approve MTIP Amendment for Fleming Rd. Relocation & Isaacson Blvd. Extension Project** – The TAC recently directed STPDA funds toward the Fleming Road Relocation and Isaacson Boulevard Project. An MTIP amendment is needed to program funds in FY 2012 for an pipeline-related utility adjustment and to delay construction until FY 2013.
7. **MTIP Amendment for FY 2011 STPDA Funded Projects** – An MTIP amendment is needed to shift four FY 2011 STPDA projects to FY 2012. The amendment is for right-of-way acquisition funding for the Wendover-Clifton and New Garden-Market intersection improvement projects, Guilford County's Bicentennial Trail, and Greensboro Sidewalk Repair.
8. **MTIP Amendment for US 220 Interchange Improvement Projects** – An MTIP amendment is needed assign segment designations and costs to the four intersection improvement projects along US 220 and to accelerate the schedule for the Brassfield and Cone Boulevard intersections.

Business Items / Potential Action Items

1. **Presentation: Federal Requirements for Adding an Interchange to the Interstate System-** Joe Geigle, FHWA, will present an overview of federal requirements for adding a new interchange to the interstate system. The presentation will also briefly address the federally required Congestion Management Process (CMP). The CMP requires that larger MPOs use and document a range of methods for congestion management.
2. **Urban Loop Acceleration** – Staff will discuss the urban loop acceleration details.
3. **Surface Transportation Reauthorization Update** – SAFETEA-LU was recently extended at FY 2011 funding levels until March 31. The reauthorization outlook and its potential impacts will be discussed.
4. **Transportation Project Activities**
5. **MPO Strategic Topics**

Other Items

1. **Board Member Report**
2. **Regional Transportation News**
3. **Wrap-Up**

Planning for the transportation future